

would be well for you to do the same with Some of your Democratic friends who now ride the whirlwind & directs its course.² The purpost of the Petition is similar to that signed at Fayetteville by Thomas Person & others — Mr. Macon, Stone & Franklin ought to be enlisted in the business, with none of whom am I in the habits of coresponding—Henderson[,] Hill & Grove are written to & Holland³ from interested motives will aid the Scheme I hope.

As I shall soon go out of Office I have the prayer of the petition much at Heart for I have become so good for nothing but to delve over Abstracts &C — that when \$1000 annually is taken away I shall be _____* that in the course of a few years ——* become a public pauper.

I am with respect & esteem
D^r Sir your^r ob^t srvt
Will. Polk

Addressed: John Gray Blount Esq^r
Post Master
Washington N. C^a.

Richard Dobbs Spaight to John Gray Blount

City of Washington 13th Jan^y. 1801

Dear Sir,

I wrote to you on the 22^d Ultimo, and informed you that I had got the Warrant for the Am^t. of Cap^t. James Taylors bill on the Secretary of War, and that I would on the next day, I would get the Treasurer of the U. S. Order on F. Hawks the Collector of New Bern for the Amount,⁴ I accordingly went to the Treasurer the next day & obtained the Order & forwarded by that days post to Major Davis. I hope it got there safe, and in time.

In my last I enclosed you a Copy of the Convention concluded by our Envoys with the French Republic. The Senate have been ever since engaged about it & have not yet made a finish. but the manner in which they will advise the president is known.

² Polk was a Federalist soon to go out of the office of Supervisor of United States Revenue. Wagstaff, *Papers of John Stee'le*, I, 190, n.1.

³ "Macon . . . Holland." Nathaniel Macon, David Stone, Archibald Henderson, William H. Hill, and William Barry Grove were United States Representatives and Jesse Franklin was a United States Senator in the lame duck session of November, 1800—March, 1801. In the next session Stone and Franklin were Senators and James Holland joined the others in the House. *Biographical Congressional Directory*, 62, 65.

* Manuscript torn.

⁴ See Spaight to Blount, December 22, 1800, in this volume.